

Rev. A. A. Phelps
Boston

and it will place him in such
circumstances that he will not
feel at liberty to back out. I
am convinced that he is the
strongest and best abolitionist,
that has the proper qualifications,
of any man that we shall get
into our ranks for some time to
come; even if they were to come
in hereafter, I should suspect that
they cared more for office, than for
the slave. I have not room to
give you a reference to my argu-
ments to induce him to accept, &
therefore will not try attempt it.
Yours, very respectfully

Rev A. A. Phelps.

A. Cummings

P.S. Br Phelps, you must go
to the Barnstable Co. meeting
at all events, for I am sick &
shall not be able to attend.

I want to have them raise a com-
mittee on finance & report to
raise 400 dollars this year & appar-
tion it among the Societies in
the Co. Also recommend holding
meetings in every School district
in each town.

Yours &c.

A. C.

personal esteem and regard. He also was fully satisfied that we should get our governor in two years from this coming Election, & assured me that he designed ^{hereafter} to go heart & soul might & influence in favor of the third party "as a common soldier" - and that he would contribute to the columns of your paper. I met every argument he presented against the nomination, which he acknowledged to be possible; but still, I could not succeed. I, however, left the subject open for an interview of the committee with him, which I would recommend as soon as convenient. It is my opinion that his diffidence is the greatest obstacle in his way, and ~~it is my opinion~~, that, if you represent, in the strongest light, your despair of finding a proper man, & convince him that his accepting the nomination will promote the cause, you may succeed. I think another year he would accept it, & that if he absolutely declines, we had better recommend to the abolitionists of the state to vote for him, and that in conclusion of your interview with him, that you inform him of such a determination.

Rev. Hiram Cummings

Boston Sept. 10th 1840

Br. Phelps, — I have had an interview with Mr. Johnson of some length, & presented all my arguments, the soundness and force of which he acknowledged, but did not succeed in getting from him a promise to accept the nomination for Governor. He would be willing to sacrifice every thing of a party nature for the good of the A. S. cause, he informed me, if he believed that the nomination of himself would subserve the cause of the slave; but he honestly did not believe ~~that~~ it would. His reasons for that were, he was a stranger in the State and not known as one of the permanent citizens, & he thought the nomination should have reference to that, & that your policy this year would be to get some upright good farmer, & then appeal to the former interests of the community to sustain your position, & by so doing you would get more votes than for him. He wished me to communicate these reasons to you, & Mr. Torrey, and to assure you, that you had his highest